

chant vessels by Russian cruisers, it is well understood that the London Ministry may find itself unable to stand out against the tide of resentful indignation of which the English people are capable on such occasions.

The action of the Russian warships recalls to some the theory advanced at the time of the Red Sea seizures, that the Czar's Government, realizing that it was in danger of defeat by the Japanese, was courting the open enmity of England, so that it might have the opportunity of saying to the world that only with the aid of the most powerful nation in Europe was Japan able to cope with Russia.

The explanations that cleared away that muddle did not bear out this theory, but the circumstances of the English Channel affair are such as to suggest it again. Apparently the Russians of the Baltic fleet were so panic-stricken when they encountered the fishing smacks as to make them commit an act of almost unparallelled stupidity, or else they showed the wanton disregard of ordinary precaution for the preservation of innocent human life.

Whatever the explanation, the matter is serious and it is expected that the Russian fleet will not be permitted to proceed on its way under its present commander. That its personnel is demoralized either from recklessness or from sheer fright is believed in some quarters here.

A continuation of the incident would make the outcome of a meeting with a squadron of Japanese battleships a matter of certainty.

Mistakes by national vessels involving the loss of innocent human lives have occurred before and have been satisfactorily adjusted. In 1886, Capt. (now Rear Admiral) Thomas O. Selfridge commanded a United States naval vessel which accidentally killed a Japanese while engaged in target practice.

A suitable apology was made to Japan. Capt. Selfridge was tried by court-martial, indemnities were paid to the families of the victims and the incident was closed without any feeling of hostility on either side. But each case of this character must be considered in the light of circumstances and with the existence of a profound feeling of dislike toward England in Russia, the Czar's Government may find difficulty in explaining why the Hull fishing fleet was made the target of a hostile attack.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

Eight Battleships, Seven Cruisers and a Large Number of Smaller Ships.

The Baltic fleet left Libau on the morning of Oct. 16, bound for the Far East. The trip to Vladivostok would be one of about 15,000 miles, and it was expected that something over nine weeks would be required to make it.

There has been no official announcement of the make-up of the fleet.

It is believed to consist of the battleships Kniaz, Suoroff, Alexander III., Borodino and Orel, all of 13,516 tons; the Oslavia, of 12,674 tons; the Navarin, of 9,476, and the Sissoi Veliky, of 8,880; the armored cruisers Dmitri Donoski and Admiral Nakhimoff, of 5,893 and 5,500 tons, and the protected cruisers Oleg, of 5,675, Aurora, of 5,380, Svecien, of 3,828, Almaz, of 3,285, the Jemchug and Izynrud, of 3,200 tons. The first four battleships are modern and powerful fighting machines, and the others are old battleships of the Pereviet and Pobieda types.

With these big ships are the transport Okean, a number of other armed merchantmen, some forty German colliers and twelve destroyers, seven of them new and the other five comparatively old.

WANT US TO INTERVENE.

Philadelphia Petition to Ask Roosevelt to Try to Stop the War.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Oct. 23.—As a result of a discussion that has been going on for two weeks a petition asking President Roosevelt to intervene in the war between Russia and Japan will soon be prepared by members of the local bar. Should the present plans culminate, attorneys in every other State will be enlisted in the movement. There will be a meeting to decide whether such a petition would meet with popular approval. There was only one plan for civilized nations to pursue; they should intervene between the warring countries in the interest of humanity.

Some of the best known attorneys in the city are identified with the movement. Their plan is to ask the President to use his power to obtain a temporary cessation of hostilities. Then the Powers could formulate some plan for arbitration. It is agreed generally that both nations could accept such a treaty with propriety.

"Some time ago," said Assistant City Solicitor John R. K. Scott, speaking of the proposed petition to-day, "President Roosevelt declared that the Czar would reject any offer of mediation on the part of other nations. The situation since then, however, has changed. The slaughter in Manchuria is becoming so appalling that it is time for the entire civilized world to protest. And it would be perfectly proper for this nation to make the first advances. By the time the proposed petition reaches the President it will have names enough to give it weight that will demand consideration."

PRINCE FUSHIMI STARTS.

Japan's Envoy to the St. Louis Exposition Gets Ready to Depart.

TOKYO, Oct. 23.—There was a brilliant scene at the Shinjishi station at noon to-day upon the departure of Prince Fushimi, the special imperial envoy to the St. Louis exposition, and his suite. The station was crowded by hundreds of the nobility and thousands of citizens.

Among those who were present to bid the Prince farewell were Prince Arisugawa and five other imperial princes; Marquis Ito, Count Matsugata and other members of the Board of Elder Statesmen; all the members of the Cabinet, members of the Privy Council, high court dignitaries, members of the imperial household, prominent army and navy officers, Mr. Lloyd C. Griscom, the American Minister; Sir Claude Macdonald, the British Minister; Count Aro Valley, the German Minister, and a number of members of the staffs of the legations. As the train started the hearty "banzai" testified to the estimation in which Prince Fushimi is held and to the nation's appreciation of the fact that he is the bearer of Japan's sincere greetings to the American people.

Prince Fushimi accompanied her husband to Yokohama, where she took leave of him on board the steamer Manchuria. Mr. F. Smith, B. C. Howard and other officers of the American Asiatic Squadron, who were on board the Manchuria, waited for the Prince on board the Manchuria to pay their respects to him and wish him bon voyage.

PUSHED WOMAN OFF HIGH WALL.

MAN SHE WAS TOWED AND THEIR COMPANION UNDER ARREST.

Crime at Jerome Park Reservoir—She's Likely to Die—Bridegroom-to-Be Found in Nearby Shanty, the Other as He Was Boarding a Yonkers Train.

John Boyce, an engineer employed at the Jerome Park Reservoir, was making a tour of inspection about 3:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon when he heard a woman groan.

He ran in the direction from which the sound came and found a woman lying on the rocks at the foot of a 25 foot wall which runs north and south through the reservoir parallel to the old Croton aqueduct. There is no water in the reservoir as yet.

At about the time Boyce came upon the woman he saw two men running along the top of the wall in opposite directions. Boyce turned and ran for the Kingsbridge police station. There he told Sgt. Schlottman what he had seen and the sergeant sent Detectives Buckridge and Johnson to the reservoir and telephoned to the Fordham Hospital for an ambulance.

Dr. Cunniffe found the woman in an unconscious condition. She had a fractured skull, one leg was broken and there were several ugly bruises. She was taken to the Fordham Hospital, where it was said that she would die.

The two detectives and Boyce started to make a search of the reservoir. Near the northern end of the big excavation is a deserted shanty. In it the three men saw some one stretched out on a pile of old ropes apparently asleep.

"That's the man," shouted Boyce. The man jumped up and was quickly handcuffed by the detectives. He spoke little English, but as nearly as the police could make out he said that he was Andrew Borie, a Russian, 26 years old, of 710 S. 10th street, New York.

The detectives questioned him slowly and he finally admitted that he had been with a woman a short time before, but denied having pushed her off the wall.

The detectives took Borie to the Kingsbridge station and there he became thoroughly frightened and finally told the sergeant that he had a companion, who, he said, was going to take the 4:41 train for Yonkers.

The detectives got to the railroad station just as the train was pulling out. They saw a man climbing on the rear platform, who, Borie said, was the companion. Johnson grabbed the man by the neck and the two were taken back to the station.

The second prisoner said that he was John Tobaczar, 38 years old, a Hungarian, living at Clinton street, Yonkers. He said that he and Borie were laborers. Neither of the prisoners would say anything more.

The detectives then went to Yonkers and found that Borie was engaged to marry a Russian woman and had left Yonkers early that afternoon for New York to marry her. The woman, the detectives learned, was Rosa Godz, 30 years old, a Russian, who lived a few doors from Tobaczar, at 71 Clinton street.

Tobaczar, they were told, had gone along as best man, and the woman had said that she would find friends and witnesses in New York. The Godz woman had come to Yonkers from Passaic, N. J., about a month ago and had met Borie in Yonkers. They had intended to go to Passaic on their wedding trip.

With this information the detectives went back to Kingsbridge and had far better success in questioning the two prisoners. They admitted that what the detectives had learned was true and said they had started for New York on a Jerome avenue car. At the northern end of the reservoir they got off the car and started to walk along the wall.

When they reached about the middle of the wall the woman was thrown to the rocks below, they said. Each declared that the other had pushed the woman off and insisted on his own innocence. As to the motive for the crime the police could learn nothing.

Corner O'Gorman questioned the prisoner, but he couldn't learn any more than the police had learned last night. Ward of the Kingsbridge station and Corner O'Gorman left for Yonkers to see if they could clear up the tangle.

NO PLEDGE TO BLACK FOR HIM.

Assemblyman Dowling Moves Out of the Black-Gruber Law Office.

Abe Gruber, the Tammany Hall Republican leader of the Twenty-first Assembly district and partner of Frank S. Black, counsel for Hannah Elias, is attempting to make things interesting for Republican candidates for the Senate and Assembly in the coming election. He declared that he would not pledge himself to support Mr. Black for United States Senator to succeed Senator Depew, in January.

Mr. Gruber, it was learned yesterday, tried to pledge Assemblyman Edward C. Dowling of the Seventeenth district of Kings, who lives at 227 Madison street, Brooklyn, and failed, as a result Mr. Dowling has left his headquarters in the offices of Black, Olcott, Gruber & Bonnyne, 170 Broadway.

Assemblyman Dowling had had an office with Mr. Gruber's firm for several years and was the personal friend of Albert W. Bonnyne of the firm, although he has been on very friendly terms with Mr. Black, Mr. Olcott and Mr. Gruber.

Governor Chairman Odell having promised at Saratoga last month to make Mr. Black United States Senator in place of Senator Depew, Mr. Gruber returned to New York and began a campaign with the Republican candidate for the legislature to get them to vote for Mr. Black. He talked with Assemblyman Dowling on the subject and insisted that Mr. Dowling should pledge himself to Black. Mr. Dowling was elected to the Assembly a year ago by a plurality of more than 4,000. He has been renominated and he said yesterday at his home that unless all signs fail he will be reelected by a plurality of 5,000 and upward.

Assemblyman Dowling refused Mr. Gruber's request that he pledge himself to vote for Mr. Black. Mr. Gruber was very angry and after a tilt Assemblyman Dowling vacated his offices with Mr. Gruber's firm, and as he said yesterday at his home, "my office is now my own hearthstone."

"The St. Louis has got hold of the facts in this matter," continued Mr. Dowling, "and I am sure that the St. Louis will say anything more beyond making the statement that I was never a member of Mr. Gruber's firm or an employee of it, and I had a right to do as I did. I only had offices with Mr. Gruber's firm, and these I vacated a month ago, after my talk with Mr. Gruber. I have been friendly to Mr. Woodruff. I favored Mr. Woodruff's nomination for Governor."

Assemblyman Dowling, it was learned, told Mr. Gruber that Senator Depew should be elected. Mr. Dowling has told others that he would vote for Senator Depew.

JOTTINGS ABOUT TOWN.

Joseph W. Blumens of 331 West 148th street, a shipyard man, was killed by a train on the Erie Railroad near Tuxedo, on the way from Jersey City last night. He died after the best medical treatment.

FORTIFYING AT THE HUN.

Tokio Believes Russians Will Make Another Stand There.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. TOKYO, Oct. 23.—Recent reports from the front say that the Russians appear to be inviting skirmishes with the Japanese in order to create the impression that they are about to take the offensive with large reinforcements and thus gain time to complete their defense works on the right bank of the Hun River, which they are building in the hope of checking the Japanese advance on Mukden.

A despatch from Seoul states that Horace Allen, the American Minister, has protested to Korea against the Government granting to the Japanese the right to construct waterworks and a new palace on the ground that the Korean authorities have already granted the right to an American.

THAW MARRIAGE A BLOW.

Pittsburg Family Upset Over the Young Man's Chorus Girl Bride.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Oct. 23.—After spending almost \$10,000 in order to see that Harry K. Thaw didn't marry without the consent of his family, the news from London that the lively young heir to many millions has married Evelyn Nesbit, the former chorus girl and art model, is a blow to the Thaw family in Pittsburg, where every member of the family is worth a few millions.

There was a feeling of disappointment up and down the Ohio Valley to-day, where the Thaws are well known. Harry Thaw in the last few years has started both sides of the Atlantic by his feats of spending money. The Thaws in Pittsburg are religious, and when a reporter this afternoon sought an opinion from Mr. Thaw regarding the marriage of Harry to the former flower girl in "The Toreador," he was met with the reply that he did not care to talk converse with any one who worked on the Lord's day. She had just returned from church and would not answer questions.

That it took Harry Thaw so long to get married is the only wonder in Pittsburg to-day. From the time he passed out of the hands of his male companions whose only instructions were to keep him from evil influences and the girls, when Harry came to swim in the Pittsburg natatorium he was accompanied even into the water by one of his companions.

An explanation for the affair came from London, that young Thaw and his bride did not attend the late birthday party of the Earl of Yarmouth, in readiness given by the Society still remembers how the Earl of Yarmouth practically stood the Thaw family off for cash when the guests were already gathered at the church for the wedding of Miss Alice Thaw to the Earl. Harry Thaw was one of the family who wanted the Earl sent back to England without either the money or Alice Thaw as his wife, and he has never forgiven the Earl for this move.

THE JAPANESE PRINCE'S VISIT.

Minister Takahira Says It Is Not Due to a Change in Our Feeling Toward Japan.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—Speaking about the appointment of Prince Fushimi to this country, Mr. Takahira, the Japanese Minister, said this evening to a representative of THE SUN that when a person of the Prince's dignity travels in a foreign country it is almost always the case that the occasion is used to start some speculation in regard to the object of such a journey.

"So I do not expect," he continued, "that the visit will be taken to the visit of his Imperial Highness alone. But to attribute it to the so-called change in American feeling as represented by some newspapers is entirely a guess from wild imagination, unless there should be some motive of misleading the public to conceive such a mistaken idea for some purpose."

Prince's visit to this country was originally brought into consideration as long ago as last spring, but as it was a part of his object to see the world's fair at St. Louis it was postponed until the fall of the year, when the exhibits would be in a more complete form for observation, and for that reason this time was chosen for his visit to this country.

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WANT SCHOOLS NEARER HOME.

Transportation to West Side Schools Doesn't Satisfy the East Side.

The East Side Civic Club held a mass meeting at the Educational Alliance last night to protest against the recent action of the Board of Education providing for the daily transportation of East Side school children to schools on the West Side.

The speakers detailed at length the danger to which the 1,500 East Side children would be exposed if they were obliged to attend the West Side schools. The Jewish children would also be unable to attend, and the children of the East Side would not have time to attend the sessions of the Jewish schools. Several of the speakers declared that the children would be brought in contact with the pernicious influences of the Tenderloin.

Resolutions were adopted recommending the erection of temporary schools under the approach to the Williamsburg Bridge and in the corporation yard at Rivington and Mangin streets. Copies will be sent to the Mayor and the Board of Education.

Two Hurt in a Small Car Smash. A Tenth avenue trolley car hit a Belt Line car at First avenue and Forty-first street last night. Michael Horace of Corona, L. I., and Carrie Henry of 412 West Fifty-sixth street were cut by glass.

GOV. WRIGHT ANSWERS PARKER.

TRUE PICTURE OF CONDITIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The Story of the "Student of Conditions There," Quoted by Parker, Shown to Be Not Only Unjust and Untrue, but in Some Instances "The Veriest Nonsense."

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—The following telegram from Secretary Taft to Gov. Luke E. Wright of the Philippine Commission, and the reply of the latter, explain themselves:

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20, 1904.

To Mr. Wright, Manila. The Democratic candidate for President on the 15th of the present month, in a public address, said: "But two classes of our people can hope to be benefited by our holding the Philippines—the class which is already privileged, and the class which seeks to make of office holding a means of livelihood. The latter class in the Philippines comprises some officials of whom a student of conditions there recently said: 'The character of many in office too little can be said. At the best they have been inefficient, at the worst dishonest, corrupt and despotic. The islands seem to have succeeded in getting the very dregs of our people.'"

He also said: "The situation in the Philippines to-day is so terrible that it passes the comprehension of our people at home. Agriculturally the country is for the time ruined. The districts in the hands of ladrones are ill fed, and in some places unable to get work. The country is overburdened with taxation; disease is prevalent, farm animals die, towns in many places in ruins, and the people are suffering over a year ago a crack-brained playwright produced a play in Tagalog, full of insurrectionary utterances and culminating in the tearing down of the American flag upon the stage, for which he and some of his fellow actors were prosecuted and convicted."

It is equally untrue that men in private life are subjected to espionage or that detectives in the guise of servants are employed. All these statements are the veriest nonsense without a scintilla of fact to support them. The only use to which detectives are put is to ferret out criminals, as is done in the United States, and the number of detectives employed by the Government, upon comparison, will be found to be fewer here in proportion to population than in New York.

Judge Parker has evidently been grossly deceived.

NATIONAL RIFLE MATCHES.

Competitions to Be Thrown Open to Rifles of Private Manufacture.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—The board of directors of the National Rifle Association of America took action last night throwing open the competition for the national marksmen's reserve to rifles of private manufacture which have been viewed and stamped by the National Rifle Association. Howard Heims, the former at Sea Girt, N. J., was appointed an inspector of the National Rifle Association to view and stamp the rifles covered by the new regulations and to sign and issue a certificate to each rifle so viewed and stamped. Individual rifles will be stamped at Sea Girt and in bulk at the factories of the manufacturers.

This action is a step in the direction of throwing open all matches, where the conditions do not absolutely prohibit the use of rifles of private manufacture of the same calibre as the Government rifle, and in which the regulation Government ammunition can be used.

The board also abolished annual membership, and in the future the association will be strictly a club of affiliated clubs, although the life members will retain their membership and the present annual members can become life members. The directors will hereafter be elected by the life members and delegates from affiliated organizations, which will be divided into three classes. The first will consist of rifle clubs, separate troops and companies, battalions and squadrons, entitled to two delegates each; second, regiments, four delegates; third, State associations, six delegates.

The offer of Lieut. E. S. Hale of Boston to establish a new match, to be known as the Hale match, for squad competition, was accepted. In addition to providing a handsome trophy to be contested for annually, Lieut. Hale has granted no less than sixteen prizes, from a gold cup to a silver one, and Lieut. Hale were appointed a committee to draw up the conditions for the match.

On motion of J. A. Haskell of New York a resolution was adopted recommending to the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice that its regulations be amended so that in all matches where "all military rifles" are permitted the rifles viewed and stamped by the National Rifle Association may be used.

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OBITUARY.

Gen. Samuel Duncan Oliphant, who for thirty-four years was clerk of the United States Circuit Court for the district of New York, died yesterday at his home in New York State, Trenton. Death was due to general debility. He was born in 1824. He was a member of the New York State Militia and served as a Captain. At the battle of White Oak Swamp he was wounded in July, 1862, and was sent to a hospital to bring all convalescents from the hospitals there to the place destroyed by the rebel army he got 120 men to the capital for the purpose of saving the city.

Dr. Montefiore Levi Maduro of 210 West 107th street died in St. Luke's Hospital on Saturday morning. He was 66 years old. He received six years ago in a bicycle accident in Central Park. Dr. Maduro was born in St. Petersburg, Russia, and was educated at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in London, Paris, Vienna and Berlin. He was at one time on the house staff of Lebanon Hospital and visiting physician at St. Vincent's Hospital.

Col. Picketts Jones, 90 years old, a graduate of West Point in 1851, a Lieutenant Colonel in the Texas army of the revolution of 1836, a Captain under Gen. Scott in the Mexican War, and a Colonel in the Confederate Army, died on Saturday night at his home in Seguin, Tex.

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turbances of the character indicated may be expected.

Fifth—Statements that newspapers are bought up or browbeaten into silence, or that of influence who criticize the commission are ostracized, that all organs of expression of public opinion are controlled and that there is no free expression of popular mind, are wholly insupportable by facts. The right of free expression of opinion through press or otherwise is recognized here as in the United States, and practiced with the same freedom, the only limitation being responsibility for libelous and seditious utterances, the law relative to these being drawn from Federal and State statutes of the Union.

No newspaper has been subsidized or browbeaten, nor has any one been ostracized for criticizing the commission. The latter have frequently been the subject of both criticism and attack by newspapers and individuals. Political questions, including immediate independence, are every day discussed freely and without interference; theatrical plays are not censored. The only possible excuse for such statements is that some one over a year ago a crack-brained playwright produced a play in Tagalog, full of insurrectionary utterances and culminating in the tearing down of the American flag upon the stage, for which he and some of his fellow actors were prosecuted and convicted.

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MOVE AGAINST THE OPEN SHOP

UNIONS GOING TO PRESS THE UNION LABEL AGITATION.

New York Unionists Alarmed by the Dual Unions in the Building Trades and the Convention of the Citizens' Alliance—Appeal to Labor Federation.

The labor unions in New York are alarmed over the coming convention of the Citizens' Industrial Alliance which is committed to the open shop and which is to meet in this city on Nov. 29 and 30. The principal business of the convention will be the furthering of the open shop idea. Measures will also be taken to oppose the proposed national eight hour law.

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